VZCZCXYZ0002 PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHJM #0679 1091018 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 181018Z APR 08 FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1243 INFO RUEHXK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 000679

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

NEA/IPA FOR SHAMPAINE/SACHAR; NEA/RA FOR VACCARO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ECON ETRD KBCT PREL KPAL IS SY AL SUBJECT: PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY NOT PLANNING TO ATTEND ARAB

LEAGUE BOYCOTT MEETING

REF: A. STATE 39695

¶B. 2007 JERUSALEM 2334

(SBU) Post delivered points (ref a) to Ziad Karablieh, Director General of International Economic Relations in the Palestinian Authority (PA) Ministry of National Economy, on April 18. Karablieh confirmed that the PA would not be sending a representative to the Arab League boycott meeting in Damascus on April 21-24. Karablieh said that the PA has a "stable policy" of engaging with Israeli businesses and is, in fact, seeking significant Israeli participation in the upcoming Bethlehem Investment Conference. EconChief noted that a local Palestinian representative in Damascus apparently attended the November 2007 meeting after post received similar assurances (ref b). Karablieh said that he would pass our concerns to the Minister of National Economy. WALLES